

Chinese Province Would Have Uncle Sam Annex It.

While the powers are plotting and planning, each for its share of the vast Chinese empire, should the partition of the empire be the outcome of the present uncertain conditions, there is one great province of China, which, unknown to the other powers, is only waiting the chance to become a part of the United States. This is the sea-coast province of Fukien, with a population of 22,000,000 people, rich cities

eye on Russia, who was building massive fortifications with feverish haste just across the narrow gulf. Italy was pressing her claims on the bay of San Mun, in the province of Chekiang, while Japan, robbed of the spoils of victory, was attempting to gain prestige, and compensate herself by making claims on the province of Fukien. Such was the condition of China and it is small wonder that patriotic Chinese were filled with apprehension. There were rumors of palace intrigues, of discord in the imperial clan, of

endured himself to all Chinese by his work in their behalf. Dr. Smyth is a New Yorker, educated in the College of the City of New York and Drew Theological seminary, who went to China as a missionary in 1882 and was soon placed in charge of the educational work of his church in Foochow. The company of patriots which bore the petition to Dr. Smyth's house was headed by one of the censors of China. The censors are in a way the highest officials of the empire, for it is their

duty of the great America, and say that we beg for an edict (proclamation) annexing this province of the Happy Establishment to his dominion. If this may not be, we beg that at least he will extend his protection over our territory and over our miserable people, who are threatened with great sorrow and loss, unless he in his beneficence shall condescend to save us."

When the censor had ceased speaking, Dr. Smyth stood for a moment dumbfounded. He attempted to explain to the assembled mandarins that such a thing was impossible; that our people would not look with favor on such a proposition; that the president had no power to do such a thing; that he was not an absolute ruler as they were, but could simply carry out the will of the people. The petitioners, however, were unconvinced, and they insisted that Dr. Smyth should go to Washington as their ambassador.

"Teacher," said the old censor, "we do not understand, but you are wise. Here is money. Whatever you will do, you go and make the prayer for us. Present this petition to your president. You will explain it to him and he will understand. He will not deny our prayer and leave us to the mercy of those who would plunder and destroy us."

Dr. Smyth then explained to them that Hawaii had but recently made a

anti-foreign spirit which has marked the Chinese of the great interior provinces. Certainly the prejudices against foreign religion has been less strong in Fukien than in any other province of China, for in its borders are found two-thirds of all Protestant-Christian converts in the whole empire of China. From the Chinese point of view, seeing the United States taking a prominent part in Oriental world politics and establishing its flag in the far east, it would seem that the reasons for the annexation of Fukien were far more potent now than ever before. It would surprise no man familiar with the affairs of the province, should that vermillion petition journey across seas yet, addressed to the president of the United States.

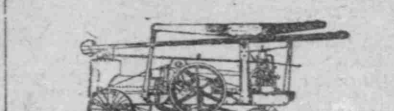
(Copyright, 1901, by G. M. Walker.)

Children often inherit feeble digestive power and colic of a more or less severe character results, when food is taken which is at all difficult to digest. WHITE'S CREAM VERMIFUGE acts as a general and permanent tonic. Price, 25 cents. Van Dyke's Drug Store, cor. Main and 3d South.

A Bread That Has a Reputation is Some Foolish People allow a cough to run until it gets beyond the reach of medicine. They often say, "Oh, it will wear away," but in most cases it wears them away. Could they be induced to try the successful medicine called Kemp's Balsam, which is a positive guarantee to cure, they would immediately see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Price, 25c. Trial size free. For sale by Goodie-Plitts Drug company, Salt Lake City, Utah.

WHY?
There is a reason for the steadily increasing sale and consumption of
HUSLER'S FLOUR
It is because a great many GOOD HOUSEKEEPERS having once used it always use it, and never use any other.

UTAH
ARTESIAN WELL CO.



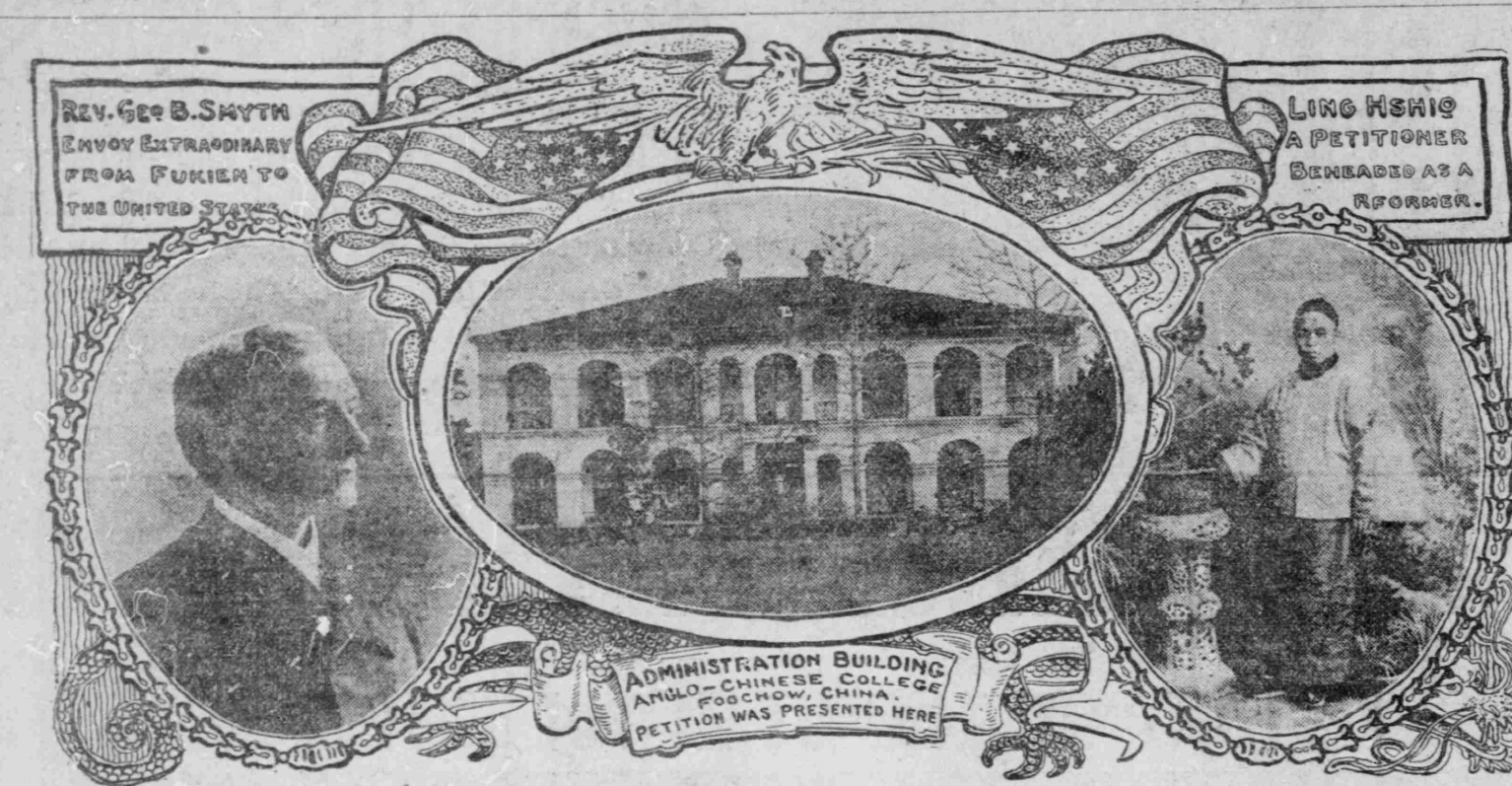
Contractor of any size and depth of well
P. O. Box 34, Salt Lake City, Utah.

BIG CURE
It is a cure for all diseases of the liver. It acts immediately and leaves none of the bad effects that result from calomel and other poisonous drugs. And all other troubles arising from disordered, weak digestion or inactive kidneys or liver. It makes pure blood, a good appetite and builds up the whole system.

"Keep Your Money At Home."
BY INSURING WITH THE
HOME FIRE OF UTAH.
DON'T CARRY YOUR OWN RISK.

LEBER J. GRANT & CO.,
GENERAL AGENTS,
20 TO 26 MAIN STREET.

CASH for acceptable ideas. State if patented. THE PATENT RECORD, Baltimore, Md. Subscription price of the Patent Record \$1.00 per annum. Samples free.



of a great and growing commerce, such has been the feeling of the people of the province toward the United States that a formal petition for annexation was once prepared, sealed and signed for transmission to the president, and when it was withheld at the advice of an American missionary, who told the petitioners that their prayer would be unavailing at that time, the matter was held in abeyance, and is to all intents and purposes in that condition today.

No piece of history so important as this is kept secret, without the most potent of reasons. In this case the reason is not far to seek. The petition was practically the first step in the act of secession. Should it have become known to the ruling powers of the empire, not only all those prominently implicated, but thousands of suspects would have been beheaded. Human life is cheap in China. Fukien would have been drenched in blood. Conditions are changed now. A leading spirit in the movement—the man who today would be the first to suffer has suffered the penalty of his straightforward and courageous patriotism. Standing for what he believed to be the empire's only hope, radical reform, the brave and brilliant young statesman, Ling Hshio, was beheaded by order of the empress at the time of the famous coup d'état of 1898, when he was but 25 years old. Of the other chief petitioners, all are now in positions of safety from identification and the petition itself is where it may be at any time presented to the president and congress of the United States, but where no official Chinese hand can discover its hiding place. So it is that now for the first time the story of the Chinese province that wanted to join the United States can be told.

It was shortly after the war with Japan that the movement for the annexation of Fukien to this nation was inaugurated. China lay helpless at the mercy of her conqueror, and the powers were tearing at her like jackals. Korea had been taken from her and set up an independent power, for the control

strife between the emperor and empress dowager. A formidable uprising existed in the northwest provinces. Most Chinese believed that the present dynasty had run its course and that the struggle for the succession was about to begin, and many were casting about for some man of destiny to whom they could offer their allegiance. Many plans were discussed by the various governors and mandarins for saving their districts and provinces from the ravages of revolution and civil war, or the reign of anarchy that might ensue should the various powers attempt to intervene on account of the unsettled condition of national affairs.

All was confusion, distress and alarm. The rulers to whom the people looked for direction were busy each striving to save his own property and head. Under such conditions there could be no well-formed plan of procedure in most of the provinces. In Fukien alone there were, among the leaders, a number of men who were motivated by motives of patriotism. They believed in their duty to the people under them and they were ready to lay down their lives in carrying it out. Secret meetings were held, and listened to the eloquence and learning of Ling Hshio, then a mere boy in years, but by virtue of having already won his second degree, a man in wisdom and authority. He and several other influential men pointed out the desperate situation, pointed out also the way of hope. The United States alone, of all the great powers, had been friendly and without design on Chinese territory or sovereignty. The treatment accorded to the natives by Americans had usually been in pleasing contrast to the harshness of other foreigners. So, in the belief that it was the best, if not indeed, the only way to secure the peace for which they longed and which they needed for the development of their great commerce, the leading officials of the province, joined by one or two from adjoining provinces, advised the preparation of a petition to the president of the United States asking that province to be annexed to this country, or at least

duty to criticize wrong-doing and incompetency, to correct abuses and recommend reforms; their right extends even to criticizing the throne, while their prerogatives include immunity from responsibility for their criticisms. It was late at night when this band of conspiring mandarins reached the home of Dr. Smyth, and the old censor carefully laid over the table before him a formidable looking document written on vermillion paper on which all official communications in China are inscribed. Dr. Smyth looked in wonder from one to another of the Chinese officials before him, and, using the ceremonial form employed on occasions of import, finally said:

"Venerable sirs, what have I done to receive the favor of a visit from you, my elder brothers, to this my miserable hut?"

The old censor who headed the delegation went straight at the matter, without the usual preliminary formalities, answering:

"Teacher" (in China it is the custom to address all missionaries by this title), "it is at your feet that we have come tonight to learn wisdom. The Kingdom of the Great Pure is threatened with a return to the time of the Three Kingdoms, when the country was divided among warring factions. The inhabitants of the Happy Establishment (Fukien) are peaceable and law-abiding, but they have heard that their territory has been claimed by a foreign power. They shudder to think of the devastation that will come upon them should their country become a battle field between the armies of rival claimants to the throne."

"We have not forgotten," continued the old censor, "the bloodshed and barbarities of the great Taping rebellion, which exterminated and depopulated provinces, and we desire, if it is possible, to save the people of this district from suffering in such a manner. The sons of Han (Chinese) have from time immemorial exercised the right of selecting their own rulers, and we believe that the happiness and prosperity of our people will be greater and more

similar petition to the United States, and while it had been favorably received by one president, a succeeding president (Cleveland) had denied their prayer. The censor referred to the fact that the attempt be made. Then Dr. Smyth, who had begun to examine the petition, called their attention to the fact that it lacked what to Americans would be a prime requisite. The petition it was true was signed by officials of the leading organs of the province, but it bore no evidence that it expressed the will or desire of the people over whom they ruled. The censor would certainly not consider an offer made by officials alone, said Dr. Smyth, unless they were satisfied that the people themselves desired this thing. For a moment the mandarins were non-plussed, but when they comprehended the American attitude of mind they quickly accepted the implied challenge. One of the younger men spoke up, saying:

"In this we are acting not for ourselves, but for the people. They will be of the same mind as we are. If it is desired, we will secure the names of the people to the petition."

"And I will guarantee that we will have the signature of every important merchant and business man, in the great parts of the province," added the old censor.

"All this will take time," said Dr. Smyth, greatly relieved by the suggestion which would give him opportunity to consider the matter maturely and consult with others about it if that seemed best. "Take back your petition, until you have the supplemental petitions with the signatures. Then all can be presented together, and I will aid you to the best of my ability and judgment."

As the delegation was retiring after thanking him, Dr. Smyth said: "Do you not know that you are imperiling your lives by this? And that you would be beheaded if this were known in certain quarters?"

To which the old censor replied with a proverb which may be translated: "The man of virtue will do the right though his life be forfeit," and the others murmured their assent.

Before the circulation of the petitions had fairly started there was so marked a change in the aspect of affairs that the documents were withdrawn from circulation, with the understanding, however, that the matter might be brought up at any time which might seem favorable. It is an open secret that from that day to this many influential men of the province have been hoping that the annexation might some day be brought about. Fukien is one of the richest provinces in China, and would be one of the most eagerly sought in case of partition. It lies on the southeastern coast of China, opposite the island of Formosa. Along its northern and western borders runs a high range of mountains, which literally cuts this province out from the rest of the Chinese empire. From this great range down towards the coast reach out ranges of minor hills, which give to the province an agreeable diversity of scenery, that has been compared to that of our state of Maine. Between these hills stretch rich valleys, which support one of the densest populations of this earth, in one of the earth's most favored regions. Its plains lie on the sunny side of the mountains and roll down in well-watered slopes to the ocean's edge. Numerous rivers, navigable almost to their source in the western highlands, flow down to the sea, which washes a coast unmatched for the attractiveness and convenience of its numerous harbors. The province was anciently called Min, after its famous river, which still bears that name, but its magnificent location and its many peculiar advantages became so noted that its ancient name was abandoned, while the natives gave it the more expressive and better descriptive title of Fukien (The Happy Establishment). Fukien is an empire in itself, and cut off as it is by the mountain range which surrounds it, there is no other province in China which could detach itself from the empire with so little disturbance, either to itself or its surrounding territory. It covers an area but little larger than the state of Ohio, but has a population of some 22,000,000. The people speak a dialect peculiar to themselves and have marked characteristics which distinguish them from other Chinese, with whom, in fact, they have often been at war. To this day a deadly feud exists between them and the Hantse, who occupy the northwestern slope of the great mountain range that divides them. Frequent raids, plundering and punitive, are even now made over the mountains into each other's territory. The Fukienese are a hardy and vigorous race. For hundreds of years they have been noted as merchants and sea-going men. Their ports, Amoy, Chin Chow and Foochow, were great emporia, and have been throughout the east over 1600 years ago. Fukien occupies that part of the Chinese mainland nearest to our island possession in the Philippines. The people of the province have been peculiar for the absence of that intense



DARK RINGS UNDER YOUR EYES?
ITS YOUR LIVER.
OVER HALF OF THE SUICIDES IN THIS COUNTRY CAN BE TRACED TO A DISORDERED LIVER. IN FACT, THERE IS NO OTHER DISEASE THAT HAS SUCH A DEPRESSING EFFECT ON THE PATIENT AS DISEASE OF THE LIVER. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE TO-DAY DOCTORING FOR SOME IMAGINARY AILMENT, WHO, IF THEIR LIVER WERE WORKING IN A HEALTHY MANNER, WOULD BE IN PERFECT HEALTH. THE LIVER ACTS AS A PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD, AND ABOVE ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BODY, SHOULD BE ATTENDED TO CAREFULLY.

LINGOLN TEA

It is a guaranteed cure for all diseases of the liver. It acts immediately and leaves none of the bad effects that result from calomel and other poisonous drugs. And all other troubles arising from disordered, weak digestion or inactive kidneys or liver. It makes pure blood, a good appetite and builds up the whole system.

A MILD LAXATIVE, WORKS RAPIDLY AND WITHOUT A GRIPE OR PAIN.

One thing is certain—LINGOLN TEA moves the Bowels
A 100-Page Book of Stories and Anecdotes of Abraham Lincoln free with every 25-cent package.
ALL DRUGGISTS.



WEAK MEN

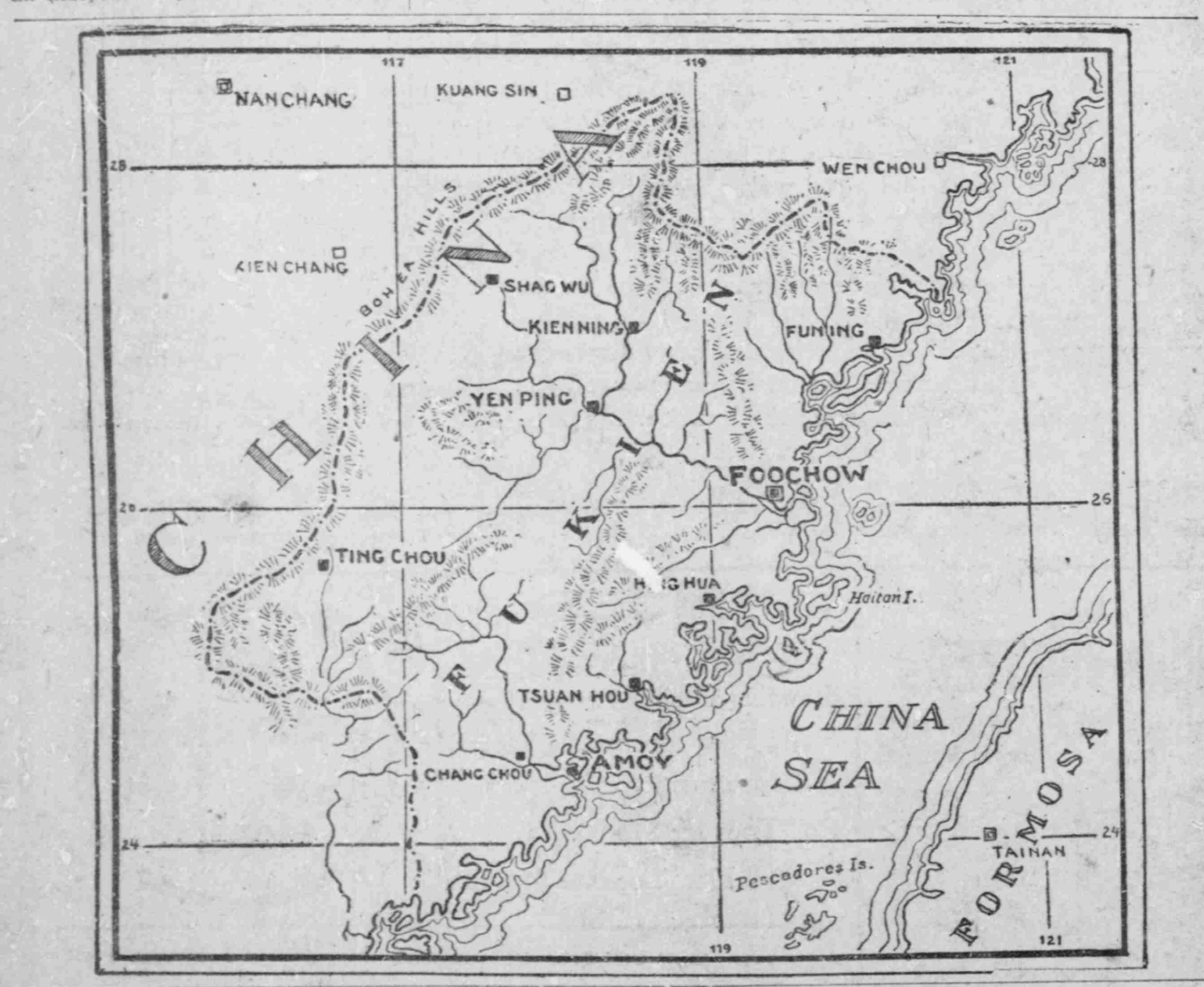
HERE IS THE SOURCE OF HEALTH.
DON'T PAY ME UNTIL YOU'RE CURED.

There is one certain way to cure weakness—that is, to restore life; one certain way to cure pain—that is, to remove its cause. How far drugs come from this, and how directly the Dr. McLaughlin Electric Belt strikes the mark, is shown by the thousands of cures performed in almost hopeless cases by my wonder-working electric treatment after the failure of all kinds of drug medication. The reason is that all pain and weakness result from a loss of organic and nerve vitality. That must be restored. Drugs cannot restore it. Electricity can and does when it is applied right. I apply it right.

Dr. McLaughlin's Electric Belt
Cures to stay cured. Nervous Debility, Waste of Power, Varicocele, Weakness of Any Kind, whether in Nerves, Stomach, Heart, Liver or Kidneys. It cures Rheumatism, Pains in Back and Shoulders, Sciatica, Lumbago, Indigestion, Neuritis, Prostatic Weakness, Constipation, Dyspepsia, and all troubles where new life can restore health.

NO CURE. NO PAY.
You run no risk. You pay only when cured, if you can offer reasonable security. Failure to cure costs you nothing, as I take all the chances. The Dr. McLaughlin Electric Belt is the best electric body appliance that has ever been invented. (Latest patent June 19, 1900.) It is warranted on a bond of \$2,000 to give a stronger current, last longer and to cure quicker than any other electric body appliance made. Guaranteed for one year at my expense. It does not fall to pieces, as the cheaply made belts do, and does not burn nor blister, as old-style belts do. It is the only up-to-date, modern electric belt on sale today.

50,000 CURES.
It has cures in every town and hamlet in the country. Cures after everything else had failed. Send for book with full information FREE. Be cured now, while you can without costing you a cent if it fails.
Dr. M. B. McLaughlin,
931 Sixteenth Street, Denver, Colo.



of which, however, both Russia and Japan were eagerly striving. The great island of Formosa had been given to Japan, but the main land had been "saved" to the empire, though at a heavy monetary cost, by the intervention of powers who had proved even more marvellous than Japan. Russia had secured Port Arthur, the Gibraltar of China. Germany, on a mere pretext, had seized Kiau Chau and was driving the population from the seized territory, dispossessing people from homes, some of which had been held in their families for over 2,000 years. France had increased her claim in south China, and England, though she had not added in relieving China from the demands of Japan, nevertheless felt justified in "accepting the lease of Wei Hai Wei," so that she could keep an

that the president issue a proclamation extending American protection over it. It is said that the sense of the entire gathering was that such a petition should be presented. As to the exact nature of the document, there was much discussion. Many plans were advanced, and finally a compromise petition was completed embodying what were believed to be the best features of the various suggestions and practically throwing the province on the mercy of the United States, with but few unimportant conditions. It is worthy of note that when these Chinese officials had prepared their petition to the United States they did not seek the United States consul in Foochow, but an American missionary, the Rev. George B. Smyth, D. D., president of the Anglo-Chinese college in that city, who had

surely secured under the beneficent rule of the great America than it would under that of the power which we have heard has claimed our province for itself (Japan). It is insufferable for our people to think that they shall be ruled over by the miserable dwarfs (Japanese). Our province is rich; the great America already comes to us for tea leaves that have made the hills of Bohemia famous wherever the sun shines. We believe that your country would find a commerce rich and profitable enough with our people to repay it for the boon for which we now humbly pray. Teacher, all this is written on the vermillion scroll which we beg you to accept from us. Do you, therefore, take this our petition and present it to the ruler of your country, the presi-